

Amendments to the Claims

I. Amendments

Please cancel claims 2, 4 and 6-8, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 1, 5 and 9-10 to read as indicated below.

Please add new claims 11 and 12.

II. The Claims of the Application

- Claim 1. **[Currently Amended]** A tape heater comprising:
- a heat-resistant, flexible substrate strip **having two surfaces, and comprising inorganic textile fabric or nonwoven fabric;**
- a heating element disposed on a **first** surface of the substrate strip **by being bound or sewn with a sewing machine to said first surface of the substrate strip with a heat resistant thread, yarn or wire,** the **first** surface being defined as a heating surface; and
- a wrap comprising a heat-resistant resin sheet, wrapping the substrate strip and the heating element, **wherein the heating element is a heating wire whose periphery is covered with a heat-resistant, insulative layer.**
- Claim 2. **[Cancelled]**
- Claim 3. A tape heater according to Claim 1, further comprising a heat-conductive material between the heating element and the wrap.
- Claim 4. **[Cancelled]**
- Claim 5. **[Currently Amended]** A tape heater according to Claim 1, further comprising a heat-insulating layer between the wrap and **the second the heating**-surface of the substrate strip.
- Claim 6. **[Cancelled]**

Claim 7. [Cancelled]

Claim 8. [Cancelled]

Claim 9. [Currently Amended] A pipe-heating structure comprising:
a tape heater comprising a **heat-resistant, flexible** substrate strip
comprising inorganic textile fabric or nonwoven fabric;[[,]]
a heating element disposed on a surface of the substrate strip **by being**
bound or sewn with a sewing machine to the surface of the substrate strip
with a heat resistant thread, yarn or wire;[[,]] and a wrap comprising a heat-
resistant resin sheet, wrapping the substrate strip and the heating element; and
a pipe wound with the tape heater in a spiral manner.

Claim 10. [Currently Amended] A method for applying a pipe-heating structure,
comprising:
the step of winding a tape heater around a pipe in a spiral manner,
wherein the tape heater comprises:
a **heat-resistant, flexible** substrate strip **comprising inorganic textile**
fabric or nonwoven fabric;[[,]]
a heating element disposed on a surface of the substrate strip **by being**
bound or sewn with a sewing machine to the surface of the substrate strip
with a heat resistant thread, yarn or wire;[[,]] and
a wrap comprising a heat-resistant resin sheet, wrapping the substrate strip
and the heating element.

Claim 11. [New] A tape heater according to Claim 1, wherein the wrap comprises a
fluorocarbon resin film or polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) sheet.

Claim 12. [New] A tape heater according to Claim 1, wherein the inside of the wrap is
evacuated.